

Message Text

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C O N F I D E N T I A L NEW DELHI 13144

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TAGS: PFOR, IN (KE, KS)

SUBJ: VISIT TO INDIA OF KENYAN FOREIGN MINISTER

1. THE FOREIGN MINISTER OF KENYA, DR MUNYUA WAIYAKI, VISTIED NEW DELHI ON 26 AUGUST ON HIS WAY HOME FROM A VISIT TO SOUTH KOREA. WAIYAKI HAD DISCUSSIONS WITH INDIAN FOREIGN MINISTER Y. B. CHAVAN, PAID COURTESY CALLS ON PRIME MINISTER GANDHI AND PRESIDENT AHMED, AND ATTENDED BOTH A LUNCHEON AND A DINNER IN HIS HONOR. HE DEPARTED ON THE MORNING OF AUGUST 27.

2. ACCORDING TO A SENIOR OFFICIAL OF THE KENYAN HIGH COMMISSION IN DELHI, WAIYAKI'S VISIT WAS IN RESPONSE TO INDIAN DISAPPOINTMENT OVER WHAT THEY FELT WAS A DEARTH OF HIGH-LEVEL KENYAN VISITORS TO INDIA. INDIAN MINISTERS FREQUENTLY STOP OFF IN NAIROBI ON THEIR WAY TO OTHER AFRICAN CAPITALS, AND CONSIDER THESE STOPOVERS AS VISITS TO BE RECIPROCATED.

3. ACCORDING TO THE KENYAN OFFICIAL, THE ECONOMIC RELATIONS BETWEEN KENYA AND INDIA ARE EXTENSIVE. KENYA IS THE THIRD LARGEST RECIPIENT IN THE DEVELOPING WORLD OF INDIAN INVESTMENT ABROAD. INDIA HAS ALSO
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PROVIDED SUBSTANTIAL NUMBERS OF SCHOLARSHIPS FOR

KENYAN STUDENTS IN INDIAN UNIVERSITIES, ADVANCED MILITARY TRAINING FOR SELECTED KENYAN SENIOR MILITARY OFFICERS, AND MANAGEMENT AND OTHER TRAINING FOR KENYAN CIVIL SERVANTS. KENYA ALSO RECRUITS INDIAN ENGINEERS, DOCTORS AND TECHNICIANS TO WORK IN KENYA ALL OF WHICH IS DONE WITHOUT ANY FORMAL AGREEMENT ON COOPERATION OF CULTURAL EXCHANGE. THE INDIANS THEREFORE WANTED A HIGH LEVEL KENYAN VISITOR AS A SIGN OF GOOD WILL AND CONTINUING CLOSE RELATIONS.

4. THE TALKS WITH CHAVAN WERE ESSENTIALLY ON A LEVEL OF GENERALITIES. BOTH SIDES EXPRESSED SATISFACTION WITH THE COLOMBO NON-ALIGNED SUMMIT CONFERENCE, AND HOPED THAT THE NON-ALIGNED BUREAU AT THE UNITED NATIONS WILL ADVANCE NON-ALIGNED INTERESTS IN THE FORTHCOMING UN GENERAL ASSEMBLY. THE INDIAN SIDE ACCEPTED THE PREMISE THAT THERE IS NO ALTERNATIVE TO ARMED STRUGGLE IN SOUTH AFRICA. ON THE MIDDLE EAST, BOTH SIDES SUPPORTED THE "JUST DEMANDS" OF THE PALESTINIAN PEOPLE, AND AGREED THAT ISRAEL MUST WITHDRAW FROM OCCUPIED TERRITORIES IN ACCORDANCE WITH UN RESOLUTIONS. THE QUESTION OF THE KENYAN ROLE IN THE ISRAELI RAID ON ENTEBBE WAS NOT RAISED BY EITHER SIDE.

5. ACCORDING TO THE SAME KENYAN OFFICIAL, THE SOLE POINT OF DISAGREEMENT IN THE TALKS WAS OVER THE QUESTION OF THE SOVIET NAVAL BASE IN SOMALIA. THE KENYAN FEELING IS THAT WHILE INDO-KENYAN POLITICAL RELATIONS ARE GENERALLY GOOD, THE INDIANS ARE EXCESSIVELY INFLUENCED BY THE USSR. THE INDIAN SIDE THUS REFUSED TO ACCEPT THE KENYAN PREMISE THAT THE EVIDENCE CLEARLY SHOWS A SOVIET NAVAL BASE IN SOMALIA. WAIYAKI CLOSED OUT THE DISCUSSION ON THIS POINT BY TELLING CHAVAN THAT KENYA WAS SATISFIED WITH THE EVIDENCE. HE COMMENTED THAT INDIAN OFFICIALS HAD MORE OCCASION TO TRAVEL THAN KENYAN, AND THAT WHEN THEY HAD EVENTUALLY SEEN ENOUGH TO SATISFY THEMSELVES, THE POINT COULD BE DISCUSSED FURTHER.

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6. WAIYAKI TOLD CERTAIN SENIOR KENYAN OFFICIALS IN DELHI THAT HIS TALKS IN SOUTH KOREA HAD BEEN SATISFACTORY, AND THAT KENYA WOULD CONTINUE TO ADOPT AN EVEN-HANDED POLICY TOWARD THE TWO KOREAS. HE SAID, HOWEVER, THAT HE HAD BEEN BLUNT IN TELLING SOUTH KOREAN OFFICIALS THAT THEY SHOULD NOT BE SURPRISED AT A GENERAL LACK OF POLITICAL SUPPORT IN AFRICA BECAUSE OF THEIR FAILURE TO COME OUT VIGOROUSLY IN

SUPPORT OF THE LIBERATION OF SOUTH AFRICA, AS NORTH
KOREA HAD DONE. HE ADVISED THE SOUTH KOREANS THAT IF
THEY EXPECTED TO MAKE POLITICAL INROADS IN AFRICA,
THEY WOULD BE WELL ADVISED TO TAKE A FIRM POSITION
ON SOUTHERN AFRICA.
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